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Application No. 10/759,061
Amendment dated September 8, 2006
Reply to Office Action of May 9, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) An industrial platform assembly comprising a weldless frame including at least three cold-formed side profiles bolted together so as to define part of a floor, said at least three cold-formed side profiles each include a folded steel sheet, the folded steel sheet forming a beam member of ~~predetermined~~ C-shaped cross-section, a cold-formed support column at each corner of said frame, said cold-formed support columns being bolted to said weldless frame, and a guard rail projecting upwardly from at least a portion of the perimeter of the weldless frame to provide a safe area for any person standing on the floor of the platform assembly, each of said corners being formed solely by one of said cold-formed support column and two of said cold-formed side profiles extending laterally away therefrom and connected directly thereto, said two cold-formed side profiles having an intermediate web portion, and top and bottom flanges folded at about 90 degrees from said intermediate web portion, said top and bottom flanges having respective terminal edge portions folded inwardly towards one another at about 90 degrees to said top and bottom flanges.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) An industrial platform assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein ~~said at least three cold-formed profiles are C-shaped in cross-section, and wherein an open side of said cold-formed~~ side profile faces inwardly of said weldless frame.

4. (Currently amended) An industrial platform assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein each of said at least three cold-formed side profiles are provided with connecting tabs at opposed longitudinal ends thereof, each of said connecting tabs defining a number of holes for receiving fasteners in order to achieve mechanical connections directly between the adjacent cold-formed profiles and associated one of said cold-formed support columns at each of said corners.

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5. (Original) An industrial platform assembly as defined in claim 4, wherein said connecting tabs are folded at 90 degrees.
6. (Original) An industrial platform assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein each of said cold-formed support columns has two open sides.
7. (Currently amended) An industrial platform assembly as defined in claim 6, wherein said open sides face inwardly of said weldless frame, and wherein each of the cold-formed support columns has a first upstanding portion extending along a first side of the frame, a second upstanding portion extending along a second side of the frame, said first and second upstanding portions being provided with respective inwardly bent flanges defining said two open sides therebetween.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Original) An industrial platform assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein a corner brace is provided at each corner of said frame, each of said corner brace being bolted at opposed ends thereof to adjacent cold-formed profiles extending from the corner.
10. (Previously presented) An industrial platform as defined in claim 1, wherein said guard rail includes a number of guard rail posts, said guard-rail post being made from steel sheets cut and folded into C-shaped profiles.
11. (Previously presented) An industrial platform as defined in claim 10, wherein said guard-rail posts are folded about two parallel longitudinal fold lines, and wherein an oblong hole extends transversally through said fold lines to define a rail receiving cavity on a back side of the C-shaped profile forming the guard rail post.
12. (Original) An industrial platform as defined in claim 11, wherein a tubular rail is welded in said rail receiving cavity.
13. (Original) An industrial platform as defined in claim 11, wherein a depression is defined at a top end of each guard rail post, said depression extending across said fold lines so as to define a seat for receiving a hand rail.

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14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)